

## Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, UN,SE, US, UK

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES

REF: USUN 386

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JANUARY 22 UK COMMUNIQUE  
CONCERNING SEYCHELLES, ISSUED FOLLOWING CLOSING SESSION  
OF SEYCHELLES CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IN LONDON. BRITISH  
HERE TELL US THAT HMG WILL BE ISSUING WHITE PAPER ON SEY-  
CHELLES SHORTLY:

QUOTE

1. THE RESUMED SEYCHELLES CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE, WORKING ON  
THE BASIS OF POSITION PAPER PRESENTED BY THE SEYCHELLES  
GOVERNMENT AS A WHOLE, HAS ENDED TODAY, 22 JANUARY 1976, WITH  
AGREEMENT ON THE PRINCIPLES AND TIMING OF AN INDEPENDENCE  
CONSTITUTION FOR SUBMISSION TO HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND  
PARLIAMENT.

2. THE CONFERENCE HAS RECOMMENDED THAT SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL  
OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT THE INDEPENDENCE  
CONSTITUTION SHOULD ENTER INTO FORCE AT MIDNIGHT ON 28 JUNE,  
1976.

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3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WISHES OF THE SEYCHELLES DELEGATION,

WHICH INCLUDED THE LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEYCHELLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND THE SEYCHELLES PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY, THE PRINCIPLES OF THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION AGREED AT THE CONFERENCE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CENTRAL FEATURES:-

- (I) SEYCHELLES IS TO BE A SOVEREIGN REPUBLIC WITH THE CONSTITUTION AS THE SUPREME LAW.,
- (II) THE PRIME MINISTER IN OFFICE ON THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION WILL ASSUME THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT. THEREAFTER, THE PRESIDENT IS TO BE ELECTED BY POPULAR VOTE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH ELECTIONS TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE PRESIDENT IS TO EXERCISE FULL EXECUTIVE POWERS.,
- (III) THERE WILL BE A CABINET CONSISTING OF A PRIME MINISTER AND 10 MINISTERS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT FROM MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.,
- (IV) FOLLOWING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ELECTORAL REVIEW COMMISSION, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS TO CONSIST OF 25 ELECTED MEMBERS, 8 ELECTED FOR THE EXISTING CONSTITUENCIES AND THE REMAINDER BY PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION FROM THE PARTY LISTS.,
- (V) THERE WILL BE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CITIZENSHIP, THE PROTECTION OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS, THE JUDICIARY, THE PUBLIC SERVICE, FINANCE AND PENSIONS ON LINES AGREED AT THE CONFERENCE.

4. IN THE COURSE OF THE CONFERENCE THE LEADERS OF THE SEYCHELLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND THE SEYCHELLES PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY CONFIRMED THEIR INTENTION TO CONTINUE THE PRESENT COALITION AFTER INDEPENDENCE AND TO HOLD ELECTIONS IN 1979.

5. THE CONFERENCE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO RECOMMEND THE TRANSFER OF THE ISLANDS OF ALDABRA, FARQUHAR AND DESROCHES TO SEYCHELLES SOVEREIGNTY UPON INDEPENDENCE. A TRIPARTITE MEETING BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM, SEYCHELLES AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS WILL BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.

6. THE LEADERS OF THE SEYCHELLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND SEYCHELLES PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY STATED THEIR INTENTION TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMONWEALTH.  
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